a substantially continuous wall and external surface and being sufficiently flexible to conform to said lumen, but sufficiently rigid to maintain a channel for flow of the fluid in the lumen, said channel providing for passage of the fluid flow from upstream of the obstruction to downstream of the obstruction with respect to said natural fluid flow;

said active element being retained in the downstream direction by said sphincter, and in the upstream direction by passive retaining means linked to said element and to be placed in said lumen downstream of said sphincter;

said active element comprising a therapeutic agent that causes reduction of the obstruction supported by and arranged around and along said active element to be delivered by contact between said external surface and said obstruction; and

said device being arranged to be inserted into and removed from said lumen in a substantially non-traumatic manner.--

--126. A device as claimed in claim 125, wherein the lumen is a male urethra and the obstructed part is the prostatic portion of said urethra.--

--127. A device according to claim 125, wherein the therapeutic agent is a cytoreductive agent.--

--128. A device according to claim 125, comprising a withdrawal thread at its downstream end, arranged for the non-traumatic removal of said device.--

REMARKS

Claims 21-128 are pending. Claims 36 and 39 are amended and claims 125-128 are added herein.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed with the above-identified application on April 5, 2001. Applicant received back from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered most of the cited disclosed